

advance sales estimates 9 days after the end of the data month in a press release called "Advance Monthly Retail Sales Report." Without these early estimates, the next available measure of retail sales is the "preliminary" estimate released about 40 days after the data month.

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), the Council of Economic Advisors, and other government agencies and businesses use the data to formulate economic policy and make decisions. These estimates have a high BEA priority because of their timeliness. Other users of the advance sales estimates include the Council of Economic Advisors, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Federal Reserve Board, other government agencies, and businesses.

We are increasing the sample size from 3,363 to 4,100 to improve the quality of the data.

**Affected Public:** Businesses or other for-profit.

**Frequency:** Monthly.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary.

**Legal Authority:** Title 13 U.S.C., Section 182.

**OMB Desk Officer:** Nancy Kirkendall, (202) 395-7313.

Copies of the above information collection proposal can be obtained by calling or writing Linda Engelmeier, DOC Forms Clearance Officer, (202) 482-3272, Department of Commerce, room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to Nancy Kirkendall, OMB Desk Officer, room 10201, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

Dated: February 24, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

[FR Doc. 98-5352 Filed 3-2-98; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### 1999 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey; Proposed Collection

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on

proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)).

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted on or before May 4, 1998.

**ADDRESSES:** Direct all written comments to Linda Engelmeier, Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Department of Commerce, Room 5327, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests for additional information or copies of the information collection instrument(s) and instructions should be directed to Peter Fronczek, Census Bureau, FB3-1433, Washington, DC 20233-8500, phone: 301-457-3199.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Abstract

The Census Bureau plans to conduct the 1999 New York City Housing and Vacancy Survey (NYCHVS) under contract for the City of New York. The primary purpose of the survey is to measure the rental vacancy rate which is the primary factor in determining the continuation of rent control regulations. Other survey information is used by city and state agencies for planning purposes as well as the private sector for business decisions. The laws of New York require such a survey to be conducted every three years.

Information to be collected includes: Age, gender, race, hispanic origin, and relationship of all household members; employment status, education level, and income for persons aged 15 & above; owner/renter status (tenure) for all households, amount of rent paid, as well as kitchen and bathroom facilities availability, maintenance deficiencies, neighborhood suitability, and specific questions about each unit such as number of rooms and bedrooms. The survey also poses a number of items relating to handicapped accessibility. Finally, a shorter series of similar questions are asked for any units that are vacant. Note that all vacant units and approximately five percent of occupied units will be reinterviewed for quality assurance purposes.

##### II. Method of Collection

All information will be conducted by personal interview.

##### III. Data

**OMB Number:** 0607-0757 (expired 09/30/96)

**Form Number:** H-100, H-108(reinterview)

**Type of Review:** Regular

**Affected Public:** Households and businesses

**Estimated Number of Respondents:** 17,200 interviews; 2,000 reinterviews

**Estimated Time Per Response:** 40 minutes occupied (16,000); 10 minutes vacant (1,200); 10 minutes reinterview (2,000)

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** 11,200

**Estimated Total Annual Cost:** The only cost to respondents is that of their time.

**Respondent's Obligation:** Voluntary  
**Legal Authority:** Local Emergency Housing Rent Control Act, Laws of New York (Chapters 8603 and 657)

## IV. Request for Comments

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden (including hours and cost) of the proposed collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval of this information collection; they also will become a matter of public record.

Dated: February 25, 1998.

**Linda Engelmeier,**

*Departmental Forms Clearance Officer, Office of Management and Organization.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

#### Current Industrial Reports Surveys—WAVE II (Mandatory and Voluntary Submissions)

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Commerce, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the